



Billings-Area Child Care Directory

December 2020



LIVE UNITED
United Way
United Way of Yellowstone County

About this Directory

United Way of Yellowstone County recognizes that a vibrant community must have quality care for its youngest members. With the financial support of a Covid response grant from RiverStone Health, we asked the Billings Child Care Association for permission to update a child care directory they have published in the past, and thankfully they agreed.

We invited licensed providers in our community to share their information here as a resource for parents.

Thank you to the child care businesses who took time to share their information, the Billings Child Care Association for their support, RiverStone Health for the funding, and the Best Beginnings Coalition of Yellowstone County for their input and teamwork on issues that affect our families and children.



Using this Directory

Disclaimer

This directory is intended to be a resource for parents to initiate contact with child care providers. It is not intended to endorse or recommend the businesses or services listed. United Way of Yellowstone County cannot be held liable for any loss or damage incurred by any person or facility represented in this directory. It is the responsibility of the consumer to thoroughly research the facilities represented before selecting them to care for your children.

Definitions

CENTER child care: A center serves thirteen or more children with a staff-to-child ratio based on the age of the children. State law requires child care Centers to be licensed by the State of Montana's Child Care Licensing Program.

FAMILY child care: One caregiver caring for up to six children at a time with no more than three under the age of two years. Care is offered in a home-like setting, usually in the caregiver's residence. Family child cares must be registered with the State of Montana's Child Care Licensing Program.

GROUP child care: Two caregivers providing care for seven to twelve children, with a limit of six under the age of two years. Care is offered in a home-like setting, usually in one of the caregiver's residences. Group childcares must be registered with the State of Montana's Child Care Licensing Program.

STARS to Quality: a voluntary quality rating and improvement system that aligns quality indicators with support and incentives for early childhood programs and early childhood professionals.

CACFP: Child and Adult Food Care Program—a federal program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks to eligible children and adults who are enrolled for care at participating child care centers, day care homes, and adult day care centers.

Unlicensed/Unregistered Childcares: Before school, drop-in, after school, and preschool programs are NOT required to be licensed or registered with the State of Montana's Child Care Licensing Program and are not monitored or inspected.

These definitions taken from
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/qad/licensure/becomeachildcareprovider>

How to Select the Right Care for your Child

The Montana Department of Health and Human Services provides the following tips when searching for a safe, high quality learning environment for your child.

LEARNING

- Are the play spaces organized with age-appropriate toys and books, puzzles and blocks easy to reach and use?
- Does the child care program offer both structured and unstructured play time daily?
- Do providers frequently read and sing to children throughout the day?
- Does the child care program allow screen time? National guidelines recommend children less than 2 years old have no screen time. For children 2 years and over the total screen time is less than thirty minutes each week, for educational or physical activity use only. This includes home and child care settings.

PROGRAM ENRICHMENT

- Does the child care program participate in Montana's Best Beginnings STARS to Quality?
- Is the program accredited by a national organization? Accreditation indicates the program has been recognized by a leading national organization for providing excellent care.
- Does the program participate in the Federal food program (Child and Adult Care Food Program)?

SUPERVISION

- Are children supervised at all times, including when they are sleeping?
- Are teachers warm, welcoming and interacting with each child?
- Are clear and simple safety rules established with the children?
- Do teachers focus on positive, clear, consistent and fair guidance?
- Are there enough staff-members to supervise all children? See the ratios below.

RATIOS

Child Care Center

Birth to 23 months: 1 adult to 4 children
2 Yrs-3 Yrs: 1 adult to 8 children
4 Yrs-5 Yrs: 1 adult to 10 children
6 Yrs and over: 1 adult to 14 children

Family Child Care

1 adult : 6 children

No more than 3 children can be under the age of 2; 6 children maximum

Group Child Care

1 adult : 6 children

No more than 6 children can be under the age of 2; 12 children maximum

HEALTH & SAFETY

- Do teachers follow standards for health and safety, including proper hand washing, diapering, and toileting?
- Is someone always present who has current pediatric (infant/child) CPR and pediatric first aid training?
- Is there a plan for responding to disasters (fire, food, etc.)?
- Do the children go outside every day unless the weather or conditions don't support outdoor time?
- Is the playground regularly inspected for safety?
- Does the child care program support breastfeeding?
- Are infants held by adults during feeding?
- Does the child care program serve meals?

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Do the teachers and director have a credential or an early childhood-related degree?
- Have the Director and teacher(s) had specific training on children's development and experience caring for children?
- Do the directors and teachers receive early childhood-related training or education?

COMMUNICATION

- Are parents always welcome in the home or center and given a copy of the program's policies?
- Are annual conferences or regular and consistent communication held with parents?

How to Check Licensure and Inspections

Enter the provider's license number into the state licensure database to view inspection reports and other pertinent licensure information.

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/qad/licensure/childcarelicensing/providersearch>

Best Beginnings Child Care Scholarship Program

From the Montana Department of Health and Human Services Child Care Website:

The Early Childhood Services Bureau in Montana offers Best Beginnings child care scholarships to qualified low-income families whose child receives care from a licensed child care center, licensed group or family child care home, or Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) child care provider.

Each family participates in the cost of that care by making a copayment based on a sliding fee scale. Scholarships are available to working families whose income is at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines and families who get cash assistance through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The program helps to pay for care when parents are not available to care for their children:

- During working hours
- During school or training hours, if meeting work requirements
- If they are a teen parent attending high school;
- If they are a parent receiving TANF who is participating in family investment agreement activities.

For more information go to:

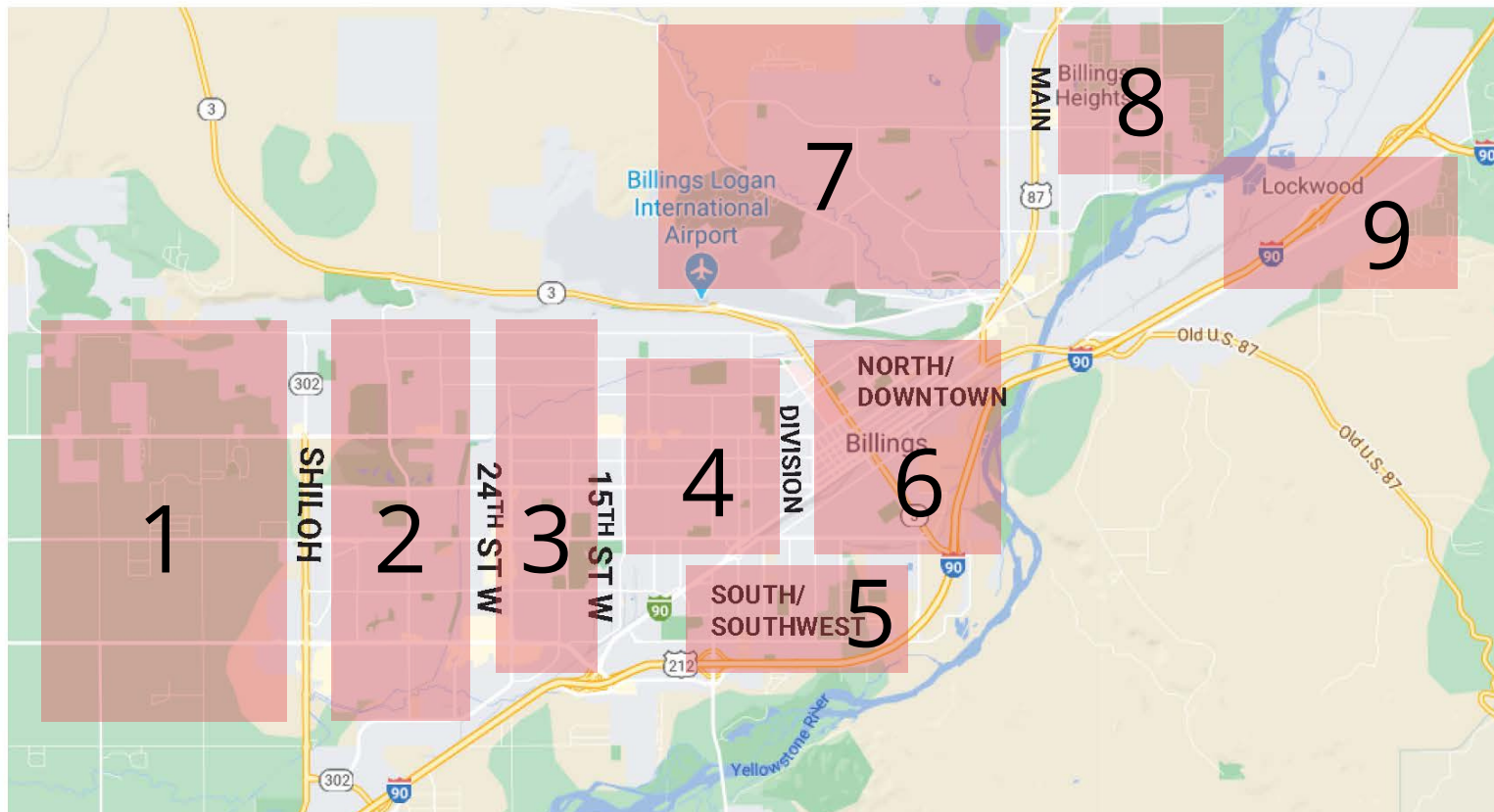
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/ecfsd/childcare/bestbeginningsscholarships>

In this region, HRDC is the Child Care Resource and Referral Agency that administers the application and review process for these scholarships.

Billings Regional Map

SHEPHERD

10



for parents
of children 0-8



<http://www.unitedwayyellowstone.org/bright-text>



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most important
teacher!**

Receive free tips, ideas
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Bright by **Text**



To subscribe text

406Parents
to **274448**

Region 1 - LAUREL & BILLINGS West of Shiloh

Tonkers Daycare - Laurel

Tonya Yost
406-591-6552
Tony2dl@gmail.com

Provider Number: 79692

Meals? Yes
CACFP? Yes
Stars to Quality? No
Ages: Infant – 12 years old
Hours: 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM Mon - Fri
Type: Group
School Transportation: No

Region 2 - BILLINGS 24th St. W to Shiloh

Aware Center for Early Childhood

Chrissy Brese
406-652-5345
cbrese@aware-inc.org
<https://www.aware-inc.org/early-childhood>

Provider Number: 108174

Meals? Yes
CACFP? Yes
Stars to Quality? Yes Level 2
Ages: Birth to 3 Years old
Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Mon - Thur
Type: Center
School Transportation: No

Christine Muri Daycare

Christine Muri
406-656-5439
tymanmom@hotmail.com

Provider Number: 76190

Meals? Yes
CACFP? Yes
Stars to Quality? No
Ages: 6 weeks – 5 Years
Hours: 7:00 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri
Type: Family
School Transportation: No

Kid Kountry, CDC

Kaycee Hodges
406-651-0720
kaycee@kidkountry.biz

Provider Number: 76284

Meals? Yes
CACFP? Yes
Stars to Quality? Yes Level 2
Ages: 2 Years – 12 Years
Hours: 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM Mon - Fri
Type: Center
School Transportation: Yes—all westend and mid-town schools

Region 2 - BILLINGS 24th St. W to Shiloh Continued

<p>Natural Discoveries Ashlee Bohlman 406-672-2985 ashlee.bermes@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 108642 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? Yes Pre star Ages: 2 Years – 5 Years Hours: 7:30 AM – 5:00 PM Mon - Fri Type: Family School Transportation: No</p>
<p>Teddy Bear Day Care Michelle Cantrell 406-652-6277 tdbrdkr@bresnan.net</p>	<p>Provider Number: 76005 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant to 12 Years Hours: 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: No</p>
<p>Tiny Toes Childcare Kody Porter-Gunn 406-200-5289 klgunn33@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 100529 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: 6 Months – 12 Years Hours: 6:30 AM – 11:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: No</p>
<p>Tiny Treasures Daycare Linda Atkinson 406-656-8768 Lindaatk30@yahoo.com Tinytreasuresdaycare.net</p>	<p>Provider Number: 78322 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: 1 year – 12 years old Hours: 7:00 AM – 5:30 PM Mon-Fri Type: Group School Transportation: Yes—Big Sky & Meadowlark Comments: Director has a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Associates degree in Early Childhood; Level 6 on Early Childhood Practitioner Registry</p>

Region 3 - BILLINGS 15th St. W to 24th St. W

<p>Cradles to Crayons Carrie Roberts 406-894-2323 Cradles2crayonsllc@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 104224 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? Yes Level 2 Ages: 6 weeks – 6 years Hours: 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM Mon - Fri Type: Center School Transportation: No</p>
<p>Family Tree Child Care Shelly L. Stanley-Lehman 406-591-0764 familytreechildcarebillings@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 84499 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 Years Hours: 7:00 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: Yes—Miles Ave Comments: When you tour, you'll know FTCC is where you want your child to be. References available. Safe, clean, loving.</p>
<p>Pooh's Too! Denise Wilson 406-896-1111 denise_poohs@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 78193 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 Years Hours: 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM Mon - Fri Type: Center School Transportation: Yes-- Big Sky, Broadwater, Burlington, Central Heights, Meadowlark, Miles Ave., Orchard, Poly, Rose Park, Washington Comments: We have taken care of children for over 35 years. We belong to BCCA and MtCCA.</p>

Region 4 - BILLINGS Division to 15th St. W.

<p>Diapers 2 Denim Summer Schoer 406-690-4689 summertymes82@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 99776 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 Years Hours: 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: No</p>
<p>Little Acorns Childcare Abigail Waller 406-534-2924 abbywaller7@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 99226 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 Years Hours: 7:30 – 5:30 Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: Yes - Washington</p>
<p>Little Acorns Childcare 2 Tiffany Stephans 406-534-2924 abbywaller7@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 101304 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 Years Hours: 7:30 – 5:30 Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: Yes - Washington</p>
<p>Wonder Years Tammi Russell 406-245-4192 rdrtar@aol.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 88921 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: 2 Years – 12 Years Hours: 6:45 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Family School Transportation: Yes—Newman & possibly others Comments: Provider has many years of experience</p>

Region 4 - BILLINGS Division to 15 th St. W. Continued	
<p>Young Families Early Head Start 406-259-2007 quinn@billingsearlyheadstart.org</p>	<p>Provider Number: 76304 <i>Just renewed license. Waiting on official renewal date, but considered current through licensing office.</i> Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? Yes Level 4 Ages: Infant – 3 years old Hours: 7:30 – 4:30 Mon, Tu, Th, Fri 7:30 – 3:00 Wed Type: Center School Transportation: No</p>
<p>Young Families Rimrock Learning Center 406-259-2007 quinn@billingsearlyheadstart.org</p>	<p>Provider Number: 108030 <i>Just renewed license. Waiting on official renewal date, but considered current through licensing office.</i> Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? Yes Level 3 Ages: 3 years old – 5 years old Hours: 7:30 – 4:30 Mon, Tu, Th, Fri 7:30 – 3:00 Wed Type: Center School Transportation: No</p>

Region 5 - BILLINGS South/Southwest	
<p>Crystal's House Daycare LLC Crystal Bohn 406-860-6521 crystalshousedaycare@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 86156 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 7 Years Hours: 6:30 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: Yes—Ponderosa, Orchard, McKinley</p>

Region 5 - BILLINGS South/Southwest Continued	
<p>Growing Minds Childcare Brytne Najar 406-861-8308 Mz.najar@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 107014 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 Years Hours: 6:30 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: Yes—Newman, Ponderosa, Orchard</p>
<p>Little Critters Preschool & Childcare Heather Tallman-Girvin 406-861-1407 littlecritterspreschool@outlook.com https://www.facebook.com/LittleCrittersBillings/</p>	<p>Provider Number: 104022 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: 2 Years – school aged Hours: 6:30 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: No Comments: 2 certified preschool teachers, former EMT</p>
<p>Little Rhythms Daycare Jessica Nava 406-855-2137 Jess_nava81@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 104916 Meals? Yes CACFP? No Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 years old Hours: 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: Yes-Ponderosa, Orchard, Big Sky and Rose Park</p>

Region 6 - BILLINGS North & Downtown

<p>Little Blessings Millicent Wine 406-896-1494 jimwine91@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 81672 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: 6 Months – 6 Years Hours: 7:00 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: No Comments: We are a family-based daycare. We all pull together--family not numbers.</p>
<p>Sunflower Academy Childcare Bobbie Moffitt 406-591-5791 bobbiehoffitt14@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 108940 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: 6 Weeks – 12 Years Hours: 6:00 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Family School Transportation: Yes - Washington Comments: I have taken the infant toddler and preschool class at HRDC</p>

Region 7 - BILLINGS HEIGHTS West of Main

No providers submitted information

Region 8 - BILLINGS HEIGHTS East of Main

<p>Lil' Cupcakes Childcare Dawn Ikener 406-697-7238 lilcupcakeschildcare59105@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 105162 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant to 12 years old Hours: 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Group School Transportation: No Comments: Provider has AA degree in Elementary Education</p>
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Region 8 - BILLINGS HEIGHTS East of Main Continued	
Camp Becky's Preschool & Daycare, LLC Becky Skogas 406-855-6849 Yobeck85@gmail.com	Provider Number: 79127 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? Yes Level 3 Ages: 2 – 13 Years old Hours: 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM Mon-Thur Type: Group School Transportation: Yes-Pioneer & Shepherd Comments: Come join us for learning, laughing & FUN!! 25 plus years experience- Billings Child Care Association member

Region 9 - LOCKWOOD	
April's Daycare April Peterson 406-861-1997 caka2002@aol.com	Provider Number: 81626 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 years old Hours: 5:30 am to 12:00 am 7 days a week Type: Group School Transportation: Yes--Lockwood, Ponderosa, McKinley and Riverside Comments: I have lots of training. I'm also a foster home. I also have special needs experience.

Region 10 - SHEPHERD & WORDEN

<p>Kid Corral Childcare & Learning Center - Shepherd Connie Jimison 406-373-5437 kidcorral99@gmail.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 78352 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 years old Hours: 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM Mon - Fri Type: Center School Transportation: Shepherd School bus picks up and drops off</p>
<p>Kountry Kare - Shepherd Mandy Berens 406-373-5555 info@kountrykarechildcare.com www.kountrykarechildcare.com</p>	<p>Provider Number: 105240 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? Yes – Level 3 Ages: Infant – 10 years old Hours: 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM Mon - Fri Type: Center School Transportation: Shepherd School bus picks up and drops off</p>
<p>Project Kids Daycare & Preschool - Worden Sarah Perkerewicz 406-696-0905</p>	<p>Provider Number: 106767 Meals? Yes CACFP? Yes Stars to Quality? No Ages: Infant – 12 years old Hours: 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM Mon - Fri Type: Center School Transportation: Yes - Huntley Project</p>